## PR Measurement, Public Opinion and Persuasion

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#### How do we evaluate PR efforts?

- Compare publicity to ad costs (amateur)
- Measure amount of work (periodic review)
- Measure message exposure, message retention, opinions, attitudes, and behavior (BEST)

## Important Questions...

- · Adequately planned?
- X-factors?
- Understand message?
- Stay within budget?
- Effective?
- Improve?
- · Reach audience?
- Accomplish goal?

## Measurement Tools Audience attendance Communication audits Surveys · Readership studies Focus groups · Content Analyses Barcelona Declaration of Measurement Principles 1. Goal setting and measurement 2. Media measurement requires quantity and quality 3. AVEs are NOT the value of PR 4. Social media can and should be measured 5. Measure outcomes, not media results 6. Organizational results can and should be measured 7. Transparency and replication are paramount to sound measurement Persuasion What we use to win in the court of PUBLIC OPINION.

## **Public Opinion**

A collection of views held by people interested in the subject

# Forming Public Opinion The Cracked Egg Model 8. Mass Sentiment 1. Mass Sentiment 2. Issue or Incident 3. Pros/Cons Form 4. Public Debate

#### Persuasion

When communication attempts to induce a change in belief, attitude or behavior through transmitting a message...

## Persuasion The key is knowing where to insert PR efforts in the eight step cracked egg model Apply Psychology and Sociology Demographics: Psychographics: - Race - Lifestyle choices - Culture - Music - Geography - Movies - TV habits - Sex - Tech preferences - Gender Resurfacing Terms: • Attitudes vs. Opinions • Image vs. Identity • Credibility and Believability

## Lerbinger's Motivational Design for Persuasive Communication

- Change attitude to fulfill a need
  - Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs
    - 1. Physiological
    - 2. Safety
    - 3. Social
    - 4. Ego
    - 5. Self-fulfillment

#### To persuade:

- Message must be <u>received</u>
- Must get audience's attention
- Must be <u>understood</u>
- Must be believed
- Must be <u>remembered</u>
- Must be <u>acted upon</u>

#### McGuire's Persuasion Process

- 1. Presenting
- 2. Attending
- 3. Comprehending
- 4. Yielding
- 5. Retain New Position
- 6. Acting

# Multi-Step Flow Theory PR Diffusion Theory 1. Awareness 2. Interest 3. Trial 4. Evaluation 5. Adoption Source Credibility • Tell the TRUTH • Expertise • Objectivity • Likeability • Similarity • Power

# Audiences • Passive Audience: • Active Audience: little to no interest aware Persuasion • Change or neutralize hostile opinions • Crystallize positive opinions • Conserve positive opinions **Persuasion Factors** · Audience analysis • Source credibility • Message clarity • Timing and context

## Persuasive Message Structure • Drama Testimonials • Statistics • Mass media endorsements · Surveys and polls Emotional appeals • Examples Persuasive Message Components • Plain folks Card stacking Testimonials • Transfer • Glittering generalities • Bandwagon Questions?